



McLaughlin Mine

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February 22, 1993

92-235

Mr. Doron Fertig  
Federal Communications Commission  
Private Radio Bureau  
2025 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Fertig:

I'd like to submit the following comments in response to the proposed regulatory changes to the PLMR services.

The conversion to narrowband technology should definitely be accomplished through a two stage program as proposed. A single step to the reduced bandwidth would result in user conflicts and safety considerations. Early obsolescence of incompatible equipment would also result in a substantially higher cost to the user.

The timing for the final bandwidth requirements in stage two should provide for an economic and gradual replacement of necessary equipment. Allowing three or four years after the initial stage in 1996 would provide for that transition.

We are also concerned that the reductions in power levels and antenna heights would result in unacceptable coverage in mountainous or similar terrain. Some alternatives or exceptions should be addressed for these types of installations.

Sincerely,

Kent Billhartz,  
Electrical Engineer

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